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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 64/293, 69/199 and 70/178. It summarizes the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support Member States in their efforts to counter transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, as well as to prevent crime and reinforce criminal justice systems, thus strengthening the rule of law. The report also refers to developments relating to the governance and financial situation of the Office. It includes information on the status of ratifications of, or accessions to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as well as on emerging policy issues, responses thereto and recommendations aimed at enhancing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

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I. Introduction

1. In implementing the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) continued to promote justice, the rule of law, crime prevention and reform of criminal justice institutions as important aspects of the global development agenda.

2. During the reporting period, UNODC continued to implement thematic programmes supporting the ratification and implementation of the drug conventions, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

3. The present report provides a brief overview of efforts undertaken by UNODC, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/178. The report also provides a brief overview of the progress made in the implementation by the United Nations system of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 64/293.[1]

4. Furthermore, the report includes a section containing, inter alia, information on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/199 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the Convention against Corruption.

II. Action taken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

5. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its twenty-fifth session on 11 December 2015 and from 23 to 27 May 2016.

6. Six resolutions were adopted by the Commission or recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Economic and Social Council and/or the General Assembly. One draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", approved by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session, was recommended, through the Economic and Social Council, for adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-first session. Two other draft resolutions, which were recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council, focused on restorative justice in criminal matters and mainstreaming holistic approaches in youth crime prevention (see E/2016/30-E/CN.15/2016/13).

7. During its thematic discussion, the Commission considered criminal justice responses to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

[1] For more detailed information, see also the report by the Secretary-General entitled "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons" (A/71/119), which has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/179.

including the financing of terrorism, and technical assistance in support of the implementation of relevant international conventions and protocols.

8. Furthermore, at its twenty-fifth session, the Commission considered the standing item on its contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1. For the consideration of that item, UNODC prepared a document on its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the proposed roles of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in reviewing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (see E/CN.7/2016/CRP.1-E/CN.15/2016/CRP.1). During the deliberations on that item, it was noted that UNODC was prepared to assist States in their efforts to implement the universal, transformative and unified 2030 Agenda, which had also been made a key part of the proposed strategic framework for the Office.

III. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth Congress

9. In its resolution 70/174, the General Assembly expressed its satisfaction with the results achieved by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, including the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation.[2] In line with that resolution, the Commission reviewed the implementation of the Doha Declaration under the standing item on its agenda on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. In the same resolution, the Assembly also welcomed the intention of the Government of Qatar to work with UNODC in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the outcome of the Thirteenth Congress, particularly the implementation of the Doha Declaration, and welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Government of Japan to act as host to the Fourteenth Congress, to be held in 2020. In line with that resolution, at its twenty-fifth session, the Commission considered proposals by Member States on ways and means of ensuring appropriate follow-up to the Doha Declaration (see E/CN.15/2016/11).

[2] A/CONF.222/17, chap. I, resolution 1.

IV. Action taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in thematic areas

A. Enhancing international cooperation and responses to crime

1. Transnational organized crime

10. During the reporting period, the Organized Crime Convention was ratified or acceded to by one State (bringing the Convention to near-universal adherence, with 187 parties). The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children was ratified or acceded to by two States (bringing the number of parties to 169), the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air was ratified or acceded to by one State (bringing the number of parties to 142) and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition was ratified, acceded to or accepted by one State (bringing the number of parties to 114). During the reporting period, UNODC also continued to provide normative, technical and substantive support to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its working groups, including the open-ended intergovernmental meeting to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, convened in accordance with Conference resolution 7/1.

11. UNODC continued to develop the knowledge management portal Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC), which includes case law and legislation databases and hosts a directory of competent national authorities. In addition, UNODC updated the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol Thereto*, and was finalizing the redevelopment of the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool, which will undergo pilot testing for future use in technical assistance programmes and activities. The publication *Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Needs Assessment Tools* was also finalized. UNODC delivered training on the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention to practitioners from over 60 countries, including legislative assistance for Afghanistan and Viet Nam on bringing their national legislation into line with the Convention.

12. Through its Global Programme for Strengthening the Capacities of Member States to Prevent and Combat Organized and Serious Crime, UNODC provided technical support to the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors and the Network of Prosecutors and Central Authorities from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in response to Transnational Organized Crime in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus. Each network facilitated the exchange of practices, contacts and execution of mutual legal assistance and extradition requests among mutual legal assistance central authorities and senior prosecutors from about 16 and 20 countries, respectively. Under the Network of Prosecutors and Central Authorities from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in response to Transnational Organized Crime in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus, UNODC also supported the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for West Africa, the

judicial platform for the Sahel countries and the judicial platform for Indian Ocean Commission members.

13. UNODC supported the establishment and functioning of regional centres such as the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre, the joint planning cell of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan, the Criminal Intelligence Centre to Combat Drugs of the Gulf Cooperation Council and others. States in South-East Asia requested UNODC support in establishing a similar regional platform.

14. UNODC, in coordination with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the World Customs Organization, Europol, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international and regional organizations, launched the Global Programme on Building Effective Networks against Transnational Organized Crime, which included a "networking the networks" initiative to establish operational links between international and regional law enforcement centres and organizations as well as regional cooperation platforms for prosecutorial and central authorities and financial intelligence units. The Programme also included the "LE TrainNet" initiative to build a network of law enforcement training institutions that will exchange training curricula and materials, methodologies, best practices and trainers, and may jointly develop training tools and materials.

15. In partnership with the World Customs Organization, UNODC continued to implement the Container Control Programme for maritime trade supply security across all regions. The Programme was extended to air cargo through a pilot programme in Pakistan in 2016, and the roll-out in other countries was planned.

16. Through its Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, UNODC supported field-based mentors in the Balkans, Central Africa, West Africa, Southern Africa, the Pacific and the Mekong subregion, and provided capacity-building support to requesting countries. Assistance was offered to the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of Southern Africa, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America against Money-Laundering and the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Asia and the Pacific. Furthermore, UNODC updated the money-laundering and terrorist financing model law for common-law jurisdictions, in cooperation with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Monetary Fund.

2. Countering trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants

17. As mandated by the Global Plan of Action, UNODC continued to host and manage the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, collect information for the forthcoming *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2016* and coordinate the work of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, which the Office is chairing in 2016. Two key policy papers on core human trafficking issues will be published under the UNODC chairmanship of the Group. UNODC also continued its active engagement in the system-wide Global Migration Group.

18. Technical assistance to Member States was provided to more than 60 countries across Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. A new

global project was launched in January 2016 to provide tailored assistance to 13 countries over the next four years to develop or enhance national counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling responses. UNODC also launched the regional strategy for combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (2015-2020) in West and Central Africa, covering 22 African countries.

19. During the period under review, technical assistance at the national level included, for example, capacity-building in Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Morocco, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia; legislative support in Ethiopia and Nigeria; and the development of a regional training initiative with national training institutes for police and gendarmerie in Burkina Faso, Mali and the Niger.

20. UNODC developed a comprehensive technical publication entitled *The Role of Recruitment Fees and Abusive and Fraudulent Practices of Recruitment Agencies in Trafficking in Persons*.

21. To enhance international cooperation for preventing and combating migrant smuggling and addressing jurisdictional issues at sea, UNODC organized transregional workshops in 2015 focusing on the situation in Central America and the Caribbean, and the Mediterranean. UNODC also held a workshop on migrant smuggling by air and document fraud, and continued a series of regional workshops on strengthening cross-border cooperation in addressing irregular migration-related crimes in the Western Balkans, jointly with the International Organization for Migration and OSCE. Furthermore, regional conferences were held in Pakistan to enhance cooperation related to migrant smuggling, and in South Africa, together with the Southern African Development Community, to draft a regional action plan on migrant smuggling. UNODC also launched a regional awareness campaign on migrant smuggling, involving Mexico and Central American States.

22. As of 30 May 2016, the Human Trafficking Case Law Database had been expanded to include 1,311 cases from 94 jurisdictions. A similar database on migrant smuggling was being developed with the aim of gaining a better understanding of migrant smuggling prosecutions and of the implementation of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol.

3. Measures against trafficking in firearms

23. Through the Global Firearms Programme, UNODC assisted 28 countries in enhancing knowledge, strengthening normative frameworks and building capacity and skills to implement the Firearms Protocol. Legislative assistance was provided to Afghanistan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Ghana, Mauritania and the Niger. Under the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation, UNODC conducted two regional seminars, in San José and in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on the synergies between the Arms Trade Treaty and the Firearms Protocol, and published two issue papers addressing these aspects.

24. Technical support and capacity-building on marking, record-keeping, collection, management and disposal of firearms continued in several Sahel countries, and technical advice was provided to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador and Panama. A train-the-trainers course on the investigation and prosecution of firearms trafficking was held in Vienna in May 2016. UNODC also provided training for civil society organizations in Uruguay and West Africa, and

delivered and/or participated in other training courses and seminars in cooperation with partner organizations.

25. The *UNODC Study on Firearms 2015*, completed in 2015, was welcomed by the Working Group on Firearms at its fourth meeting. The study laid the foundation for more sustained data collection and analysis work to come, and to support implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 16.4 on illicit arms flows. As the proposed lead agency, UNODC will work collaboratively with other United Nations agencies and Member States in monitoring the achievement of this target. Cooperation and coordination continued with the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the European Union, the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States, the Organization of American States, OSCE and the Union of South American Nations.

B. Curbing corruption

26. As at 1 June 2016, there were 178 parties to the Convention against Corruption.

27. Under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, 125 country reviews were finalized, with another 20 being close to finalization. Follow-up technical assistance activities have been initiated in more than 40 countries. Since its inception, the Implementation Review Mechanism has received financial contributions from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Panama, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, as well as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In-kind contributions have also been provided by Argentina, Armenia, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, China, Colombia, Fiji, Greece, Haiti, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Nepal, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Vanuatu.

28. The Implementation Review Group held its sixth session from 1 to 5 June 2015 and resumed that session on 3 and 4 November 2015 on the margins of the sixth session of the Conference of States Parties. The Group considered, inter alia, the implementation of the Convention, the assessment of the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, technical assistance and financial and budgetary matters.

29. The Working Group on Prevention held its sixth meeting from 31 August to 2 September 2015, and the Working Group on Asset Recovery held its ninth meeting on 2 and 3 September 2015, both in Vienna.

30. The sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention against Corruption was held from 2 to 6 November 2015 in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation. The Conference adopted an unprecedented 10 resolutions. Most notably, the Conference launched the second cycle of reviews under the Convention against Corruption peer review mechanism, which will look into the important

chapters on prevention and asset recovery and will start in June 2016. The Conference also adopted four other resolutions aimed at preventing corruption through the use of information and communications technologies and related innovations in public service delivery, by educating and training professionals on countering corruption and by promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption. The Conference further adopted resolutions aimed at strengthening international cooperation and asset recovery, including by providing new mandates for UNODC to develop specific guidance materials and tools. Finally, for the first time, the Conference encouraged a focus on strengthening anti-corruption efforts in small island developing States.

31. UNODC continued to develop and disseminate knowledge-building tools for practitioners. The anti-corruption portal called Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) continued its successful operation. The Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative contained over 1,800 resources (up from 800 in 2013), in addition to a model course on the Convention against Corruption. Furthermore, a number of international and regional workshops and meetings of the Initiative were held in 2015 and 2016. UNODC also continued its partnerships with the private sector to prevent and combat corruption at the national and international levels.

32. UNODC delivered a significant part of its technical assistance through the Anti-Corruption Adviser Programme. Currently, regional advisers are working on South-East Asia, West and Central Africa, East Africa and Southern Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, the Pacific region, the Middle East and North Africa, and small island developing States. In El Salvador and in Mozambique, national anti-corruption advisers provided assistance and expert advice. Also, UNODC continued to implement anti-corruption projects in a number of countries, including Afghanistan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Iraq, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Paraguay, Tunisia and Viet Nam.

33. Under the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative, UNODC, together with the World Bank, continued to provide both case-related and general capacity-building support to more than 20 countries. Those countries were given assistance in strengthening their capacities in asset tracing, international cooperation, the preparation and conduct of case consultations, and case strategy development. The fourth session of the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, co-chaired by the Government of Tunisia, the Government of Germany and the Government of Qatar within the framework of the latter's presidency of the Group of Seven and supported by the StAR Initiative, was held in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 8 to 10 December 2015. The meeting provided a platform for capacity-building, the exchange of expertise and several bilateral meetings, focusing in particular on cases concerning Tunisia.

34. UNDP and UNODC continued to implement a joint anti-corruption project for the Pacific, as well as two complementary global projects with parallel workplans, covering East Africa, North Africa and the Middle East, South Asia, South-East Asia, Southern Africa and small island developing States. Furthermore, UNDP and UNODC jointly implemented an anti-corruption project in Kosovo.[3] UNODC and UNDP continued to support efforts to integrate anti-corruption into United Nations

[3] All references to Kosovo in the present document should be understood to be in compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

programming. UNODC also coordinated with the United Nations Global Compact, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in relation to preventing and combating corruption.

C. Preventing and countering terrorism

35. Under its Global Programme on Strengthening the Legal Regime against Terrorism, UNODC continued to provide legal and capacity-building assistance aimed at supporting national criminal justice systems in preventing and countering terrorism. During the reporting period, UNODC contributed to 20 additional ratifications of the 19 international conventions and protocols related to terrorism. UNODC efforts also contributed to achieving the necessary number of parties to the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material for its entry into force on 8 May 2016.

36. In-depth analysis and support for the revision of national counter-terrorism legislation were provided by UNODC to several countries, including Bhutan, Cabo Verde, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia and Turkmenistan. In addition, UNODC responded to several requests for legislative assistance on incorporating requirements of recent Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2178 (2014), into national legislation.

37. UNODC continued to deliver capacity-building training at the global, regional and national levels on a broad range of specialized thematic areas. During the reporting period, the Office assisted more than 90 Member States and carried out some 100 national and regional activities through which more than 3,000 criminal justice officials were given training. In addition, in response to requests from Member States, UNODC proactively mobilized resources and expertise to support criminal justice and law enforcement officials in addressing the challenges posed by foreign terrorist fighters and their radicalization, the growing nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime, the financing of terrorism, including through the illicit sale of antiquities, and the trafficking and destruction of world cultural property by terrorists. On the issue of foreign terrorist fighters, UNODC has launched a technical assistance initiative on strengthening the criminal justice responses to foreign terrorist fighters in the Middle East and North Africa and in Balkan countries. Assistance pertaining to the issue of foreign terrorist fighters was initiated for Central Asia, South-East Asia and the Sahel region.

38. In its technical assistance, UNODC integrates human rights aspects, including by promoting the investigation and prosecution of terrorism cases on the basis of the rule of law. In this context, the training module on Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism further demonstrated its relevance during the period under review, especially for customizing training materials to specific contexts in a number of countries, and for the development of online training on this important subject.

39. During the reporting period, several States sought the Office's assistance on the treatment of children recruited by or associated with terrorist groups. Recognizing the importance of ensuring the protection of children's rights, UNODC initiated assistance for the Sahel countries on the criminal justice aspects related to children allegedly involved with Boko Haram, and developed a new capacity-building initiative on justice and security challenges concerning children associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups.

40. To support capacity-building and training in the area of terrorism prevention, UNODC continued to produce handbooks and other publications, bringing the total number to 38. The tools launched during the reporting period include *Good Practices in Supporting Victims of Terrorism within the Criminal Justice Framework*, human rights-related training materials for Nigeria and the *Compendium of Bilateral and Regional Instruments for South Asia: International Cooperation in Criminal Matters*. In response to increased demand for online training, UNODC advanced work on several new online courses, such as on the use of the Internet for terrorism purposes, jointly with technical experts from Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom.

41. UNODC continued its efforts to enhance international cooperation in criminal matters pertaining to terrorism by providing networking opportunities and facilitating the exchange of national and regional good practices. The regional judicial platform for the Sahel countries is one example of an efficiently functioning mechanism to facilitate requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition among Member States. Another such platform is planned for Central Africa.

42. To ensure the sustainability of its technical assistance and to promote professional legal training, the Office successfully partnered with training institutions in India, Indonesia, Libya, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tunisia and Yemen in preparing their staff to act as trainers.

43. UNODC continued to build and maintain strategic partnerships with international, regional and subregional organizations, including United Nations system entities. The Office further strengthened its cooperation with entities participating in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, by enhancing coordination of technical assistance plans and implementing a joint project in the area of terrorism prevention.

D. Preventing crime and strengthening criminal justice systems

44. UNODC continued to assist Member States in applying the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in over 40 countries in all regions of the world, including developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict. Through global, regional and country programmes and its field office network, UNODC supported Member States in developing effective crime prevention strategies and policies and in building the capacity of their criminal justice systems to operate more fairly and effectively within the framework of the rule of law. These efforts are contributing to the achievement of several goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, in particular Goal 16. The examples provided below reflect some promising practices and the progress achieved recently.

45. Within the global focal point for the police, justice and corrections in post-conflict and other crisis situations, the Office participated in the joint planning of field missions, in the joint programming of technical assistance and in strategic discussions at headquarters. As part of its Sahel programme, the Office supported several countries in that region in drafting model laws on the protection of victims and witnesses, trained criminal justice officials on the proper treatment and handling of victims and witnesses of crime, and developed the capacity of prison officials to properly register, evaluate and classify high-risk prisoners.

46. Crime prevention continued to be a priority in the work of UNODC. For instance, in Latin America, the Office promoted the economic inclusion of young people as a form of crime prevention in Brazil and conducted training in Mexico to increase the quality and accuracy of local crime prevention interventions. UNODC is increasing efforts to assist countries in preventing youth crime by helping marginalized and at-risk youth develop life skills through sports and related activities, building on the Office's experience in life skills programmes to prevent drug abuse among youth.

47. UNODC is also prioritizing activities that address global prison challenges in order to meet three strategic objectives: reducing the scope of imprisonment; strengthening prison management and improving prison conditions, including health-care services; and supporting the social reintegration of offenders upon release. The Office undertook assessments of the implementation of alternatives to imprisonment in Ethiopia and Indonesia, as well as a prison assessment in Nepal and an assessment of prison reform and social reintegration in Tajikistan. UNODC supported 15 countries in building capacities to develop and implement HIV prevention, treatment and care strategies and programmes in prisons. Capacity-building workshops and training courses for prison officials or policymakers were held in over 15 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. The Office also provided rehabilitation support and in-prison training on literacy and vocational skills in Afghanistan, and supported the drafting of a plan to reduce prison overcrowding in Bolivia (Plurinational State of).

48. The Office also promoted access to justice and legal aid by supporting countries in the development of national legal aid legislation, strategies or legal aid training materials, or in the exchange of good practices and capacity-building for legal aid providers. In addition, UNODC partnered with UNDP in the development of a global study on legal aid to identify good practices and priorities for future technical assistance.

49. UNODC also promoted gender equality in the criminal justice system through its work on preventing and responding to violence against women and on the rights of women offenders and prisoners. Examples include work in Egypt to build the capacity of police and prosecutors responding to gender-based violence, and in Panama to raise awareness of the special needs of women deprived of liberty and eradicate all forms of violence against women.

50. The Office also stepped up its efforts to support justice for children and to prevent and address violence against children. In over 10 countries in different regions, UNODC carried out assessments, supported legislative development or

trained relevant professionals. Under the new Global Programme on Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC worked closely with the United Nations Children's Fund to deliver technical assistance at the global and regional levels, and in a pilot country, Colombia, at the national level.

51. To support the delivery of its technical assistance, UNODC developed several handbooks and other tools in the reporting period, including the *Handbook on Dynamic Security and Prison Intelligence* and the *Handbook on the Management of High-Risk Prisoners*, a *Training Curriculum on Women and Imprisonment*, a set of modules on justice, policing and other essential services for women and girls subject to violence, and a technical paper on combating violence against migrants. The Office also advanced work on new and updated tools, such as model legislation on legal aid and a handbook on the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons.

52. UNODC continued to build on partnerships with international and local governmental and non-governmental organizations, including as a member of coordination mechanisms such as the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice. UNODC also partnered with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization and UNDP in the process of developing a joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, with UNODC in the lead for police and justice services.

E. Data collection, research and trend analysis, and international cooperation in the forensic field

53. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the General Assembly in 2015, the United Nations Statistical Commission agreed upon an indicator framework that set new data requirements for the monitoring of progress in the areas of public safety and security, rule of law and access to justice, as outlined under Goal 16 and other relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNODC has the capacity to support countries in producing high-quality data for reporting against indicators on crime and criminal justice, with a view to ensuring effective monitoring of progress towards targets.

54. The endorsement of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes by the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2015 was a major step forward in improving the consistency and comparability of crime statistics. As the custodian of the International Classification, UNODC established a technical advisory group, which held its first meeting in May 2016.

55. A major tool for the promulgation of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes is the standards set in the annual United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. To enhance the quality and availability of data collected and disseminated through the Survey, UNODC has

built a global network of over 130 national focal points, who held their first joint meeting in May 2016.

56. Important progress has also been made in the development of common standards for victimization surveys, which are indispensable tools for the monitoring of several Sustainable Development Goal indicators. The first common survey instrument was finalized in 2015, together with the UNODC-National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Victimization, Public Security and Justice, and in collaboration with experts from 12 Member States and other partners in Latin America and the Caribbean.

57. The third edition of the UNODC *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293, will be published during the last quarter of 2016. UNODC started collecting data for the production of that edition of the report in April 2015, covering more than 130 countries around the world.

58. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/40 and General Assembly resolution 69/314, UNODC launched the first *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in Protected Species*. The report was produced with the support of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, composed of UNODC, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, INTERPOL, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization. That study, which explores the involvement of organized criminal networks in illicit trafficking in protected species, required the creation of a world wildlife seizures database. That database is to be updated on the basis of the new illicit trade reporting requirement issued by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

59. UNODC continued its efforts to enhance the capacity of forensic science institutions worldwide through the development of guidelines and manuals, and the promotion of forensic best practices, from the crime scene to the courtroom. The Office also made reference materials and training tools available in support of law enforcement officials, laboratory experts and the judiciary. These included the standardized training programmes and e-learning resources on security document examination designed to enhance border security and to help prevent and combat identity-related crimes, particularly in relation to trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and terrorist mobility. UNODC also continued its efforts to enhance professional development for forensic-science practitioners and to provide sustainable quality-assurance support to a broad audience, including through the online implementation of international collaborative exercises for testing security documents.

60. UNODC supported regional cooperation activities in the forensic science sector through collaboration with, and participation in activities of, the Asian Forensic Sciences Network, the Ibero-American Academy of Forensic Science Institutes and the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes. In the framework of the International Forensic Strategic Alliance, a partnership among regional forensic science networks, UNODC continues to support the creation of opportunities for strategic collaboration across the global forensic science community.

F. Emerging policy issues and responses

Piracy

61. Under its Maritime Crime Programme, UNODC continued to support criminal justice systems in the Indian Ocean region and delivered capacity-building activities through training for law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges and prison officials. Regional cooperation among coastal States was strengthened through the establishment of the Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime. In Somalia, UNODC supported maritime law enforcement by embedding mentors in regional coast guard services and maritime police units. Construction of the Mogadishu prison and court complex commenced. In the Gulf of Guinea, UNODC supported legal reform efforts on piracy and armed robbery, including legal assessments and legislative drafting and capacity-building for prosecutors and judges.

Cybercrime and the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children

62. In accordance with resolution 22/7 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the UNODC *Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime* was translated and made available in all six official languages of the United Nations, and the Secretariat invited Member States to provide their comments on the study.

63. UNODC, through its Global Programme on Cybercrime, continued to provide technical assistance and capacity-building support in South-East Asia, East Africa and Central America, inter alia by training law enforcement professionals, prosecutors and judges on electronic evidence, including with regard to online child protection.

Countering trafficking in cultural property

64. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/196, UNODC developed a practical tool to assist Member States in the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences and included those Guidelines in the updated *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*.

65. UNODC continued to be involved in combating trafficking in cultural property by participating in various activities and cooperating with relevant partners, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and INTERPOL.

Environmental crime, including trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora

66. Through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, UNODC supported more than 20 Member States in strengthening their responses to wildlife and forest crime by reviewing national legislation, providing specialized training and equipment to front-line officers, providing on-the-ground mentorship to intelligence analysts and investigators, working with prosecutors to increase the quality and admissibility of cases for court, and raising awareness among the

judiciary on the transnational, organized and serious nature of wildlife and forest crime. Furthermore, the Global Programme worked to support Member States in tracing the proceeds of wildlife crime and to support wildlife authorities in strengthening anti-corruption measures. In association with several Member States, UNODC also began addressing transnational organized crime in the fisheries sector.

V. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

67. At the reconvened twenty-fourth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Member States took note of Economic and Social Council decision 2015/234, extending the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the first half of 2017, and elected the co-Chairs of that working group. The working group continued to play an important role as a forum for discussions in areas such as strategic and budgetary matters, evaluation, oversight, programme development and implementation, and the financial situation of the Office.

68. The financial situation of UNODC remains vulnerable. Its consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 totals $651.1 million, of which 6.9 per cent comes from regular budget funds and 93.1 per cent from extrabudgetary resources. The decline in non-earmarked funds persists, with general-purpose income predicted to reach a mere 1.7 per cent of total income in 2016. Low levels of non-earmarked or soft-earmarked funding represent a key challenge to the effective implementation of the mandates and programmes of UNODC and put a strain on its management, coordination and normative functions.

69. The consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 builds on the lessons learned since the launch of the funding model of full cost recovery, namely the need to cost programme delivery transparently, fairly and consistently; to use funding sources for their intended purposes; and to seek ways to realize cost efficiencies. The continued implementation of full cost recovery in 2016-2017 remains essential for ensuring the financial sustainability of the Office.

70. In 2014 and 2015, UNODC introduced major initiatives to strengthen the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency of programme execution, including the United Nations Secretariat-wide Enterprise Resource Planning System (Umoja), the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, the framework of engagement of external parties and a comprehensive approach to risk management.

71. At the UNODC annual appeal event held in Vienna on 25 February 2016, UNODC presented the funding needs for the biennium 2016-2017 and highlighted the resources necessary to assist Member States in countering drugs, crime and terrorism. The event was framed within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and highlighted the links between UNODC mandates and the attainment of sustainable and equitable growth for all.

72. Pledges for voluntary contributions reached $325 million in 2015; a decline, however, is projected for 2016. Among the largest donors are Australia, Canada,

Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Panama, Qatar, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.

73. General-purpose contributions further declined to $4.4 million in 2015, and a similar level is anticipated for 2016. General-purpose funds were almost exclusively provided by the following donors: Afghanistan, Austria, Bangladesh, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Republic of Korea, Thailand, United States and Hong Kong, China.

74. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, UNODC had been strengthening its results-based strategic planning efforts to focus on assisting Member States in developing coherent and integrated approaches to organized crime, illicit trafficking, corruption, and terrorism and its root causes, as well as to addressing the world drug problem and promoting a fully balanced approach to the implementation of the drug conventions within a human rights-based framework. A wide range of platforms and tools were being developed to foster integrated system-wide approaches.

75. The Office is undertaking a comprehensive exercise to revitalize its inter-agency affairs portfolio with a view to enhancing field-level impact and ensuring effective collaboration with sister agencies in delivering technical assistance, upon request.

76. UNODC continues to fine-tune and improve the integrated programming approach focusing on the integration of global programme components into regional and country programmes and interregional programme cooperation. Essential to this approach is the development of regional and country programmes, since it enables the Office to respond to Member States' priorities in a participatory and sustainable manner. In 2015, the Office launched the regional programme for Central Asia and the revised country programmes for Afghanistan and Iran (Islamic Republic of). This brings the total number of integrated programmes to 18, comprising nine regional programmes and nine country programmes.

77. The Independent Evaluation Unit evaluates the entire portfolio of UNODC according to universal standards and norms set by the United Nations Evaluation Group and cooperates with audits to ensure efficiencies in oversight. The Unit has invested heavily in information technology, capacity-building and the setting of high standards of quality, while also focusing on gender and human rights and giving assurances and recommendations on project and programme performance to Member States and UNODC senior management. The number of major, programmatic in-depth evaluations increased from 2 in 2011 to 11 in 2015, and compliance with UNODC evaluation requirements increased from 40 per cent in 2011 to 75 per cent in 2014.

VI. Recommendations

78. It is recommended that the General Assembly consider taking the following actions, including with a view to furthering the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

(a) Continue to attach high priority to strengthening the rule of law and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the prevention of crime and the promotion of fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems;

(b) Request Member States to continue providing financial support to UNODC in the area of rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice;

(c) Call upon UNODC to effectively assist Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the promotion of comprehensive and coherent whole-of-government responses to existing challenges;

Addressing transnational organized crime

(d) Call upon Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

(e) Call upon Member States to effectively implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

(f) Invite Member States to adopt legislative and other measures to implement the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, including through the adaptation of their national legislation to the relevant criminalization provisions and to the provisions on international cooperation in criminal matters of those instruments, and further encourage Member States that are parties to the Convention to promote and strengthen international cooperation by implementing and making more effective use of the Convention as the legal basis for this purpose;

(g) Call upon States to enhance the identification of victims of human trafficking among vulnerable groups, especially people on the move, to enable better access to assistance and protection;

(h) Call upon States to use available measures and tools to prevent and combat organized crime related to smuggling of migrants or trafficking in persons, in particular instruments for effective international cooperation, and to trace, freeze and confiscate the proceeds of crime;

(i) Call upon Member States to provide each other with the widest measure of mutual legal assistance, as provided for under the Organized Crime Convention, and, when investigating the predicate crimes of money-laundering, to conduct parallel financial investigations and to follow the money trail, with the ultimate aim of depriving criminals of their proceeds of crime through confiscation measures;

(j) Invite Member States to develop or strengthen their national capacities for the collection and analysis of data on illicit firearms trafficking,

inter alia as a contribution to the implementation of target 16.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals;

Curbing corruption

(k) Encourage Member States that have not already done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(l) Encourage States parties and signatories to the Convention against Corruption to make efforts for its full implementation;

(m) Encourage Member States to afford each other the widest measure of cooperation and assistance for the recovery and return of assets;

Preventing and countering terrorism

(n) Encourage Member States to ratify and implement the 19 international legal instruments related to counter-terrorism, as well as relevant United Nations resolutions;

(o) Encourage Member States to utilize the capacity-building assistance provided by UNODC to strengthen their criminal justice systems, including with regard to newly emerging challenges;

Preventing crime and strengthening criminal justice systems

(p) Request Member States to initiate or strengthen proactive crime prevention policies, programmes and strategies that address the root causes of crime and that optimize cooperation between different sectors of government, civil society and the business sector;

(q) Request Member States to adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection, focusing on all sectors of the justice system and informal justice mechanisms;

(r) Request Member States to build national and regional efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice reform on international standards, human rights treaties and relevant United Nations standards and norms, and make use of tools and handbooks developed by UNODC for that purpose;

(s) Request Member States to strengthen their support for the work of UNODC in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, which is a cornerstone of the advancement of the rule of law and human rights, and a prerequisite for the effective and sustainable fight against organized crime, corruption and terrorism;

Data collection, research and trend analysis and cooperation in the forensic field

(t) Invite States to develop national plans to gradually adopt the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national criminal justice statistical systems, in order to improve the capacity for relevant, high-quality and standardized statistical data so as to adequately monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and the associated targets and indicators;

(u) Encourage UNODC to further develop and provide methodological support and guidance to Member States for the implementation of the International Classification and for the production of statistical data and indicators that are relevant for the monitoring of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals;

(v) Request UNODC to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge on crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in regard to specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, while optimizing available resources;

(w) Call upon UNODC to continue to collect information on patterns and flows of wildlife and forest crime with the aim of generating systematic assessments that are needed to inform the response to that threat by the international community;

(x) Request UNODC, in collaboration with Member States, to continue to support the development of sustainable forensic science services worldwide by promoting the implementation of forensic best practices, including the development of guidelines, reference materials and training tools and the provision of quality-assurance support, and to encourage and facilitate international cooperation through the establishment and maintenance of regional forensic science networks;

Emerging policy issues and responses

(y) Invite Member States to support UNODC in strengthening its global programme of technical assistance in relation to countering cybercrime, including online child abuse and exploitation;

(z) Recognize that transnational organized wildlife and forest crime continue to expand, while prosecution and conviction rates remain low, and call upon Member States to improve national and international investigations with a focus on strengthening the collection of evidence and increasing the number of prosecutions;

Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(aa) Encourage Member States to continue to actively participate in the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC;

(bb) Call on Member States to support a strengthened culture of evaluation and accountability at UNODC, as well as the evaluation function, to enable it to fully implement its mandated work in a sustainable manner, delivering key accountability services and products with a clear focus on gender and human rights;

(cc) Urge Member States to provide UNODC with adequate, predictable and stable resources, including additional regular budget resources, to enable it to implement its mandated work in a sustainable manner;

(dd) Urge Member States to provide UNODC with greater general-purpose (unearmarked) and soft-earmarked funding to enable the Office to effectively respond to the increasing demand for technical assistance and to continue its technical cooperation in close coordination with partner countries and regional bodies.